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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/826,429

Applicant(s)

NILES ET AL.

Examiner

Omar Abdul-Ali

Art Unit

2178

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 November 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-105, 111-113 and 119-121 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-105, 111-113, and 119-121 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

The following action is in response to the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed November 29, 2007. Amended Claims 1-105, 111-113, and 119-121 are pending and have been considered below.

A. Examiner's Note: The prior art rejections have been withdrawn as necessitated by Applicant's amendments.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

1. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

2. Claims 1-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. These claims are non-statutory for at least the reason that they are not tangibly embodied in a manner so as to be executable (i.e. stored on a computer readable storage medium which does not include a carrier wave or other form of transmission medium).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-11, 12-16, 25, 34-42-50, 60, 69-85, and 95 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhao et al. (US 7,073,127) in view of Greenfield et al. (US 6,544,294)

Claims 1, 34, and 69: Zhao discloses a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline, comprising an overview layer comprising first editable representations of at least a subset of the plurality of media clips (column 3, lines 43-61), however the Zhao does not explicitly disclose the plurality of media clips in the overview layer comprise the project. Greenfield discloses a similar method for editing within a single timeline that further discloses an overview layer that includes first editable representations (Act 1, Act 2) of the plurality of media clips that comprise a play (Figure 1). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include first editable representations of the plurality of media clips that comprise a project in Zhao because the technique was recognized as part of ordinary capabilities of one skilled in the art. One would have been motivated to include media clips that comprise the project in the overview layer in order to provide the user with a visual representation of the duration and components of the project in a single interface.

b. for each media clip, a track comprising a second editable representation of the media clip, wherein the track and the overview layer are concurrently displayed (column

4, lines 11-45). In Figure 6, the overview layer (612) is displayed concurrently with the track layer;

Zhao discloses a moveable cursor for editing the representations of the media clips and for controlling the timeline display and Greenfield further discloses editing a representation of a media clip manipulates the media clip. Specifically, Greenfield discloses dragging and resizing an Act representation reduces the duration of the selected Act (column 3, lines 1-10). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include this limitation in Zhao. One would have been motivated to manipulate a media clip by editing a representation of the media clip in order to allow the user to control the duration of each media clip.

Claims 2, 35, and 70: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 1, 34, and 69 above, and Zhao further discloses:

- a. the first editable representation is updated responsive to edits made to the second representation (column 3, lines 27-61/column 4, lines 31-50);
- b. the second editable representation is updated responsive to edits made to the first representation (column 3, lines 27-61/column 4, lines 31-50).

Claims 3, 36, and 71: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 1, 34, and 69 above, and Zhao further discloses:

a. the overview layer comprises first editable representations of all media clips in the plurality of media clips(column 3, lines 27-42).

Claims 4, 37, and 72: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 1, 34, and 69 above, and Zhao further discloses:

a. at least one media clip overlaps another media clip, and wherein the overview layer comprises first editable representations of all media clips that do not overlap media clips (Column 3, lines 27-42/Figure 3).

Claims 5, 38, and 73: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 1, 34, and 69 above, and Zhao further discloses:

a. at least one media clip overlaps another media clip, and wherein the overview layer comprises an overlap region indicating the extent of the overlap (column 3, lines 27-42).

Claims 6, 39, and 74: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 5, 38, and 73 above, and Zhao further discloses:

a. the tracks for the overlapping media clips comprise editable representations of the overlapping media clips (column 4, lines 46-67).

Claims 7, 40, and 75: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 1, 34, and 69 above, and Zhao further discloses:

a. the overview layer and each track are oriented along a first axis representing time, and wherein each first editable representation of a media clip is aligned along a second axis with a corresponding second editable representation of the same media clip (column 3, 27-42/Figure 5).

Claims 8, 41, and 76: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 7, 40, and 75 above, and Zhao further discloses:

a. the first axis is horizontal and the second axis is vertical (Figure 5).

Claims 9, 42, and 77: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 7, 40, and 75 above, but does not explicitly disclose the first axis is vertical and the second axis is

horizontal. However, no patentable weight is given to the orientation of the axis and it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the axis could be oriented in either fashion. One would have been motivated to orient the first axis vertically and the second axis horizontally strictly for design choice.

Claims 10, 43, and 78: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 7, 40, and 75 above, and Greenfield further discloses each editable representation of a media clip has a dimension along the first axis representing the temporal length of the clip (column 4, lines 5-15). Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that each editable representation of a media clip can have a dimension along the first axis representing the temporal length of the clip. One would have motivated to display the clips according to a temporal layout in order to enable the user to identify the length of each clip in relation to time.

Claims 11, 44, and 79: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 10, 43, and 78 above, and Greenfield further discloses the start and end locations of each editable representation represent the start and end time of the media clip media segments (column 4, lines 55-62). Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to represent the start and end

locations of each editable representation as the start and end time of the media clip.

One would have been motivated to represent the start and end locations of each editable representation as the start and end time of the media clip in order to enable the user to identify the length of each clip in relation to time.

Claims 12, 45, 46, 80, and 81: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 1, 34, and 69 above, and Zhao further discloses:

- a. the timeline display is selectively collapsible to hide the tracks and selectively expandable to show the tracks (column 4, lines 9-30).

Claims 13, 47, and 82: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 1, 34, and 69 above, and Zhao further discloses:

- a. the timeline display comprises a plurality of overview layers, each overview layer being associated with at least one track (column 3, lines 27-60).

Claims 14, 48, and 83: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 1, 34, and 69 above, and Zhao further discloses:

- a. the media clips comprise video clips (column 4, lines 31-36).

Claims 15, 49, and 84: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 1, 34, and 69 above, and Zhao further discloses:

- a. the media clips comprise audio clips (column 4, lines 31-36).

Claims 16, 50, and 85: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 1, 34, and 69 above, and Zhao further discloses:

- a. each media clip can be shortened, lengthened, moved, or deleted responsive to user actions with respect to either of the representations of the media clip (column 4, lines 60-66).

Claims 25, 60, and 95: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 1, 34, and 69 above, and Zhao further discloses:

- a. a canvas comprising spatially movable representations of at least a subset of the media clips (column 3, lines 11-18).

5. Claims 17, 21-24, 51, 56-59, 86, 91-94 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhao et al. (US 7,073,127) in view of Greenfield et al. (US 6,544,294) and further in view of Fasciano et al. (US 5,467,288).

Claims 17, 51, and 86: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 1, 34, and 69 above, and Zhao further discloses dragging and dropping media clips to destinations (column 3, lines 43-60), but neither reference explicitly disclose a drop down menu is displayed in response to the user dragging a media clip to the destination location within the timeline display, the drop menu comprising a plurality of commands. Fasciano discloses a similar method for editing within a single timeline further comprising a menu permitting the selection of multiple commands when a region is selected in the timeline (column 6, lines 39-49). Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that a drop down menu could be displayed in response to dragging an object to the destination location within the timeline display in Zhao. One would have been motivated to display a drop down menu in response to the user dragging a media clip to a destination location within the timeline in order to give the user the option to perform different commands on the region.

Claims 21, 56, and 91: Zhao, Greenfield, and Fasciano disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 17, 51, and 86 above, and Fasciano further discloses the drop menu comprises an overwrite command that causes the dragged media clip to replace an existing media clip at the destination location (column 12, lines 10-37). Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include an overwrite command in the drop down menu when a media clip is dragged to

a destination location in Zhao. One would have been motivated to include an overwrite command in the drop menu to allow the user to access more customization options.

Claims 22, 57, and 92: Zhao, Greenfield, and Fasciano disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 17, 51, and 86 above, and Fasciano further discloses the drop menu comprises an overwrite command that causes the dragged media clip to replace a portion of an existing media clip at the destination location, the portion having a length equal to the length of the dragged media clip (column 12, lines 10-37). Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include an overwrite command that causes the dragged media clip to replace a portion of an existing media clip at the destination location, the portion having a length equal to the length of the dragged media clip in the drop down menu when a media clip is dragged to a destination location in Zhao. One would have been motivated to include an overwrite command in the drop menu to allow the user to access more customization options.

Claims 23, 58, and 93: Zhao, Greenfield, and Fasciano disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 17, 51, and 86 above, and Fasciano further discloses the drop menu comprises an exchange command responsive to the dragged media clip having a length equaling the length of an existing media clip at the destination location, causes the dragged media

clip to replace the existing media clip (column 12, lines 10-37). Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include an exchange command in the drop down menu when a media clip is dragged to a destination location in Zhao. One would have been motivated to include an exchange command in the drop menu to allow the user to access more customization options.

Zhao, Greenfield, and Fasciano disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 17, 51, and 86 above, and Fasciano further discloses the drop menu comprises an exchange command responsive to the dragged media clip having a length exceeding the length of an existing media clip at the destination location, causes the dragged media clip to be replaced by a portion of the dragged media clip having a length equal to the length of the existing media clip (column 12, lines 10-37). Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include an exchange command in the drop down menu when a media clip is dragged to a destination location in Zhao. One would have been motivated to include an exchange command in the drop menu to allow the user to access more customization options.

Zhao, Greenfield, and Fasciano disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 17, 51, and 86 above, and Fasciano further discloses the drop menu comprises an exchange command responsive to the dragged media clip having a length that is less than the length of an existing media clip at the destination location, causes the dragged media clip to replace

a portion of the existing media clip, the portion having a length equal to the length of the dragged media clip (column 12, lines 10-37). Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include an exchange command in the drop down menu when a media clip is dragged to a destination location in Zhao. One would have been motivated to include an exchange command in the drop menu to allow the user to access more customization options.

Claims 24, 59, and 94: Zhao, Greenfield, and Fasciano disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 17, 51, and 86 above, but neither reference explicitly discloses the drop menu is context sensitive based on the destination location. However, Fasciano does disclose that the drop menu is enabled when a region is selected in the timeline (column 6, lines 39-49), and it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that this menu could be regarded as context-sensitive when an item is dragged to a destination location in Zhao. One would have motivated to include a context sensitive menu in order to enable a more efficient design environment.

6. Claims 104, 111, 112, 119, 120, and 127 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhao et al. (US 7,073,127) in view of Fasciano et al. (US 5,467,288) and further in view of Reder et al. (US 6,727,919).

Claims 104, 112, and 120: Zhao discloses a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline further comprising receiving a user command to drag the media clip to the destination location (column 3, lines 11-18), but does not explicitly disclose in displaying in response to receiving the user command, a drop menu comprising a plurality of commands for integrating the dragged media clip at the destination location. Reder discloses a similar method for editing within a single timeline, that further discloses a pop-up menu appears in response to a drag and drop operation. Fasciano discloses a similar method for editing within a single timeline further comprising a menu permitting the selection of multiple commands when a region is selected in the timeline (column 6, lines 39-49). Fasciano also discloses depending on the placement mode selected, an overwrite placement (exchange command) operation is enabled. Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that a drop down menu could be displayed in response to dragging an object to the destination location within the timeline display in Zhao. One would have been motivated to display a drop down menu in response to the user dragging a media clip to a destination location within the timeline in order to give the user the option to perform different commands on the region.

Claims 111, 119, and 127: Zhao, Fasciano, and Reder disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 104, 112, and 120 above, and Fasciano further discloses responsive to user selection of the exchange command and responsive to an existing media clip at the destination

location having a length equal to the length of the dragged media clip, deleting the existing media clip, and replacing the deleted media clip with the dragged media clip (column 12, lines 10-37). Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include an exchange command in the drop down menu when a media clip is dragged to a destination location in Zhao. One would have been motivated to include an exchange command in the drop menu to allow the user to access more customization options.

Zhao, Fasciano, and Reder disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 104, 112, and 120 above, and Fasciano further discloses responsive to user selection of the exchange command and responsive to the existing media clip having a length less than the length of the dragged media clip, deleting the existing media clip, and replacing the deleted media clip with a portion of the dragged media clip having a length equal to the length of the deleted media clip (column 12, lines 10-37). Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include an exchange command in the drop down menu when a media clip is dragged to a destination location in Zhao. One would have been motivated to include an exchange command in the drop menu to allow the user to access more customization options.

Zhao, Fasciano, and Reder disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 104, 112, and 120 above, and Fasciano further discloses responsive to user selection of the exchange command and responsive to the existing media clip having a length greater than the

length of the dragged media clip, deleting a portion of the existing media clip having a length equal to the length of the dragged media clip, and replacing the deleted portion with the dragged media clip (column 12, lines 10-37). Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include an exchange command in the drop down menu when a media clip is dragged to a destination location in Zhao. One would have been motivated to include an exchange command in the drop menu to allow the user to access more customization options.

7. Claims 18-20, 52-55, and 87-90 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhao et al. (US 7,073,127) in view of Greenfield et al. (US 6,544,294) further in view of Fasciano et al. (US 5,467,288) and further in view of Foreman et al. (US 7,124,366).

Claims 18, 52, and 87: Zhao, Greenfield, and Fasciano disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 17, 51, and 86 above, but neither reference explicitly discloses the drop menu comprises a composite command that causes the dragged media clip to be composited with an existing media clip at the destination location. Foreman discloses a similar computer program product for editing within a single timeline that further discloses dragging and dropping clips before and after existing clips (column 13, lines 27-54). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to composite dragged media clips at the destination location in

Zhao. One would have been motivated to include a composite command in the drop menu to allow the user to access more customization options.

Claims 19, 53, and 88: Zhao, Greenfield, and Fasciano disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 17, 51, and 86 above, but neither reference explicitly discloses the drop menu comprises an insert command that causes the dragged media clip to be inserted at the destination location, and that causes an existing media clip at the destination location to be moved to make room for the dragged media clip. Foreman discloses a similar computer program product for editing within a single timeline that further discloses moving clips when a new clip is dropped before a clip or a hole (column 13, lines 27-54). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to move existing media clips when a dragged media clip is placed at the destination location in Zhao. One would have been motivated to include an insert command in the drop menu to allow the user to access more customization options.

Claims 20, 54, 55, 89, and 90: Zhao, Greenfield, and Fasciano disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 17, 53, and 88 above, but neither reference explicitly discloses the drop menu comprises an insert command that causes the dragged media clip to be inserted at the destination location, and that causes an existing media clip at the destination location to

be split to make room for the dragged media clip. Foreman discloses a similar computer program product for editing within a single timeline that further discloses splitting and moving clips when a new clip is dropped between a clip or a hole(column 13, lines 27-54). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to split and move existing media clips when a dragged media clip is placed at the destination location in Zhao. One would have been motivated to include an insert command in the drop menu to allow the user to access more customization options.

8. Claims 105, 113, and 121 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhao et al. (US 7,073,127) in view of Fasciano et al. (US 5,467,288) further in view of Reder et al. (US 6,727,919) and further in view of Foreman et al. (US 7,124,366).

Claims 105, 113, and 121: Zhao, Fasciano, and Reder disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 104, 112, and 120 above, but neither reference explicitly discloses the drop menu comprises a composite command that causes the dragged media clip to be composited with an existing media clip at the destination location. Foreman discloses a similar computer program product for editing within a single timeline that further discloses dragging and dropping clips before and after existing clips (column 13, lines 27-54). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to composite dragged media clips at the destination location in

Zhao. One would have been motivated to include a composite command in the drop menu to allow the user to access more customization options.

9. Claims 26-29, 61-64, and 96-99 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhao et al. (US 7,073,127) in view of Greenfield et al. (US 6,544,294) and further in view of Foreman et al. (US 2001/0040592).

Claims 26, 61, and 96: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 25, 60, and 95 above, but neither reference explicitly discloses the spatially moveable representations are updated responsive to edits made to the corresponding first or second editable representations in the timeline display. Foreman discloses a similar computer program product for editing within a single timeline that further discloses operations performed on the clips in the timeline are reflected automatically in the shot descriptions of the storyboard (spatially moveable representations) and vice versa (page 5, paragraphs 47 and 49). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the spatially movable representations are updated responsive to edits made to the corresponding first or second editable representations in the timeline display in Zhao. One would have been motivated to update the spatially moveable representations in order to keep track of the changes made in the project.

Claims 27, 62, and 97: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 25, 60, and 95 above, but neither reference explicitly discloses the first and second editable representations in the timeline display are updated responsive to edits made to the corresponding spatially moveable representations. Foreman discloses a similar computer program product for editing within a single timeline that further discloses operations performed on the clips in the timeline are reflected automatically in the shot descriptions of the storyboard (spatially moveable representations) and vice versa (page 5, paragraphs 47 and 49). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the first and second editable representations in the timeline display are updated responsive to edits made to the corresponding spatially movable representations in Zhao. One would have been motivated to update the first and second editable representations in order to keep track of the changes made in the project.

Claims 28, 63, and 98: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 25, 60, and 95 above, but neither reference explicitly discloses the first and second editable representations in the timeline display are selected responsive user selection of the corresponding spatially moveable representations. Foreman discloses a similar computer program product for editing within a single timeline that further discloses operations performed on the clips in the timeline are reflected automatically in the shot

descriptions of the storyboard (spatially moveable representations) and vice versa (page 5, paragraphs 47 and 49). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the first and second editable representations in the timeline display are selected responsive to selecting the corresponding spatially movable representations in Zhao. One would have been motivated to select the first and second editable representations responsive to selecting the corresponding spatially moveable representations in order to keep track of the changes made in the project.

Claims 29, 64, and 99: Zhao and Greenfield disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 25, 60, and 95 above, but neither reference explicitly discloses the spatially moveable representations are selected responsive to user selection of the corresponding first or second editable representations in the timeline display. Foreman discloses a similar computer program product for editing within a single timeline that further discloses operations performed on the clips in the timeline are reflected automatically in the shot descriptions of the storyboard (spatially moveable representations) and vice versa (page 5, paragraphs 47 and 49). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the spatially moveable representations are selected responsive to user selection of the corresponding first or second editable representations in the timeline display in Zhao. One would have been motivated to select the spatially movable representations in response to selecting the

corresponding first or second editable representations in order to keep track of the changes made in the project.

10. Claims 30-33, 65-68, and 100-103 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greenfield et al. (US 6,544,294) in view of Foreman et al. (US 2001/0040592).

Claims 30, 65, and 100: Greenfield discloses a method for editing within a single timeline further comprising:

a. a canvas, comprising a representation of the project, wherein the representation of the project comprises a plurality of selectable and spatially moveable representations of the plurality of media clips that comprise the project, and wherein a location of a spatially movable representation represents where the media clip is displayed within the project (Figure 1). Specifically, Greenfield discloses a canvas view in which the media clips are displayed and have the ability to be moved within the acts of a play. By moving a media clip representation from one act to another, the media clip would be displayed in the second act instead of the previous act.

Greenfield discloses a timeline display representing a duration of the project (Fig 1./ '111') comprising a timeline representation of media clips but does not explicitly disclose the a timeline display for each currently selected media clip in the canvas.

Foreman discloses a similar computer program product for editing within a single timeline that further discloses a viewer window that has an associated timeline allowing

a user to preview imported clips (page 6, paragraph 56/page 7, paragraph 67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a timeline display for each currently selected representation of a media clip in Greenfield. One would have been motivated to include a timeline display for each selected representation of a media clip in order to obtain an indication of the temporal characteristics of a media clip.

Greenfield also does not explicitly disclose the timeline display is activated in response to at least one spatially moveable representation being selected, and wherein the timeline display is deactivated in response to no spatially moveable representation being selected. However, Foreman discloses the media clips are previewed responsive to a user selecting a video clip from the library (page 6, paragraph 56/page 7, paragraph 67). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the timeline display is activated in response to selecting a media clip, and deactivated in response to no media clip being selected. One would have been motivated to activate and deactivate the timeline in response the selection or de-selection of media clips in order to enable the user to access the timeline only when necessary.

Claims 31, 66, and 101: Greenfield and Foreman disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 30, 65, and 100 above, and Greenfield further discloses:

a. each timeline representation of a media clip is editable (column 6, lines 30-45).

Claims 32, 67, and 102: Greenfield and Foreman disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 30, 65, and 100 above, and Foreman further discloses operations performed on the clips in the timeline are reflected automatically in the shot descriptions of the storyboard (spatially moveable representations) and vice versa (page 5, paragraph 47). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the spatially movable representations are updated responsive to edits made to the corresponding timeline representations in Greenfield. One would have been motivated to update the spatially moveable representations in order to keep track of the changes made in the project.

Claims 33, 68, and 103: Greenfield and Foreman disclose a user interface, method, and computer program product for editing within a single timeline as in Claims 30, 65, and 100 above, and Foreman further discloses operations performed on the clips in the timeline are reflected automatically in the shot descriptions of the storyboard (spatially moveable representations) and vice versa (page 5, paragraph 47). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the timeline representations are updated responsive to edits made to the corresponding spatially movable representations in Greenfield. One would have been motivated to update the timeline representations in order to keep track of the changes made in the project.

Response to Arguments

11. Applicant's arguments filed 11/29/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Claims 104, 112, and 120: Applicant argues Zhao, Fasciano, and Reder do not disclose, teach, or suggest "displaying, in response to receiving the user command and in response to no time period having been selected, a drop menu comprising a plurality of commands for integrating the dragged media clip at the destination location, wherein the plurality of commands includes at least one of a composite command and an exchange command".

It is respectfully submitted that the combination of Zhao, Fasciano, and Reder is sufficient to teach this limitation. The Reder reference was relied upon to provide a teaching of a drop menu that is displayed in response to a drag command. The Fasciano reference overcomes the deficiency of the Zhao reference in regards to selecting commands that pertain to dropping a media clip at a destination location. Fasciano discloses an overwrite command that overwrites the current material in the media timeline. This command does not require a selection of a region to overwrite. Figure 10A depicts the placement of a clip during an overwrite command, and based on the Examiner's interpretation, the current material replaced by the overwrite command is "exchanged" with the new clip. There is no time gap between a clip that has overwritten a region and an old region, as opposed to the clip insert placement operation depicted in Figure 10C. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the

art at the time the invention was made to provide an exchange command in a drop down menu to integrate a dragged media clip at a destination location.

12. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 34, 69, 104, 112, and 120 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Omar Abdul-Ali whose telephone number is 571-270-1694. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri(Alternate Fridays Off) 8:30 - 6:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong can be reached on 571-272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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OAA
1/30/2008



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